

annually, and the managing trustees, who each give at least \$100,000 or raise \$250,000 from others.²⁰⁸

Though housed in the DNC's headquarters building, two congressional finance operations work separately to raise funds for federal candidates: the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC) and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC). Both organizations target many of the same contributors who support the DNC and the Democratic presidential campaign committees, but the spending focus of these entities is on congressional candidates, and their staffs and fund-raising efforts are both of a far more limited scale. These committees both compete and coordinate with the DNC and the presidential campaign committees, the latter efforts occurring at times when donors have reached their maximum levels of participation to one organization, and can then be encouraged to support the others.

As Chairmen Fowler and Dodd took over the reins at the DNC, there was an unprecedented imperative to increase the DNC's fund-raising capacity. The Republicans had dominated the Democrats in the 1994 congressional elections, from which the DNC emerged saddled with \$4 million in debt, and the 1996 general election was expected to cost more than

²⁰⁸The DNC promoted membership in these councils by assigning certain perquisites to each level of giving. One DNC document described the trustee program as "a small circle of the Party's most committed, influential members," "the true foundation of the Democratic Party," composed of "special friends of the Party" who "serve as valuable spokespersons and counselors, guiding the Democratic Party in its effort to make government an asset to American families and businesses." Undated DNC Trustee Program Profile. Another program profile outlined trustee privileges including, among other things: invitations to a number of events each year with the President and Vice President; opportunities to participate in foreign trade missions; frequent news and policy briefings; and a promise that "[e]ach Trustee is specifically assigned a DNC staff member to assist them in their personal requests." Undated DNC Trustee Events and Membership Requirements Profile. When the news media published highly critical reports based on such program materials in June and July 1995, however, the DNC revamped the fund councils, eliminating specific promises of benefits and reducing the number of councils.